

Washington, DC – Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced the passage of H.R. 4438, the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2010, on the House floor Tuesday evening.

The bill expands and preserves the historical Missions of San Antonio, and authorizes a study of lands to be included within the Park's boundary. The bill is co-sponsored by the other Members of the Bexar County Congressional delegation, Congressman Henry Cuellar, Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez and Congressman Lamar Smith.

“This is wonderful news for the City of San Antonio and our historic Missions,” said Congressman Rodriguez. “These rich lands are among the most culturally significant centerpieces of our community and need to be preserved and hopefully expanded. Together with the many partners in our community, we will restore the river and the surrounding Missions neighborhoods, while supporting future growth and development.”

The bill must now go to the Senate, where Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison has introduced S.3524.

“San Antonio’s missions are an integral part of our Texas history and culture. It is important to protect these historic state treasures for future generations of Texans. I will work to pass this historic preservation legislation in the Senate,” said Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX).

Susan Chandoha, Executive Director of Los Compadres de San Antonio Missions, said the vote is a very welcome step for the park.

“We are thrilled that the Missions’ park bill passed the House and thank Congressman Rodriguez and the Bexar Congressional delegation for their co-sponsorship and support,” Chandoha said. “This bill is extremely important to the preservation and interpretation of numerous Spanish Colonial resources in Bexar and Wilson Counties.”

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